



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Washington, D.C. 20231.

## **Patent Application**

Applicant(s): A.D. Baker et al.

Case:

19-3

Serial No.:

09/484,098

Filing Date:

January 18, 2000

Group:

2157

Examiner:

Gregory G. Todd

Title:

Methods and Apparatus for Local Network

Address Acquisition, Analysis and Substitution

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

RECEIVED

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal

Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

FFB 2 1 2003

Sir:

Technology Center 2100

In response to the first Office Action dated November 19, 2002, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In accordance with the invention, a local area network (LAN) or other type of local network is interfaced with one or more external network elements via a gateway that implements an address substitution mechanism for ensuring that communications between devices attached to the local network are not routed through an external network as a result of, e.g., disparity in their remotelyassigned IP addresses. In accordance with the invention, the gateway is configured to intercept